

Mint of the United States
at Philad^a

5. June 1879

Sir,

Your favor of 4th Inst. just received, and in part reply to your questions, I will say that in my judgment the price of $2\frac{1}{4}$ ¢ pr. lb. for good commercial soda ash is the present market rate, and that it is subject to fluctuations in price, as shown in the following prices. In 1876 we paid

3. 2.87 3.25 — in 1877 3. 2.50 , —
in 1878 2.50 2.62 — in 1879 1.87 in Jan. — 2.25
in April, and the present price is 3.00.

In 1873 the prices were 3.25 and as high as 6.

The majority of the above are those of Savage, Keyser & Howell, & show fairly the fluctuations voluntarily made according to the fluctuations in the market. — I wrote yesterday morning to S. K. & Howell, asking for pr. ct. of alkali, but have not yet received a reply. { Respectfully yours
Hon. A. Loudon Snowden ^{suptdt} } La C Booth M & R

NARA RG104, Entry 1, Box 117

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In 1873 the prices were 3.25 and as high as 6. The majority of the above are those of Savage, Keyser & Stovell & show fairly the fluctuations voluntarily made according to the fluctuations in the market. I wrote yesterday morning to S.K. & Stovell, asking for pr. ct. of alkali, but have not yet received a reply.

Respectfully yours
Jas. C. Booth
M & R

Hon. A. Loudon Snowden, Suptdt.